

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 18-28 and add claims 29-38, such that the status of the claims is as follows:

1. (Original) A tunneling magnetoresistive stack comprising:  
a first ferromagnetic layer;  
a tunnel barrier layer on the first ferromagnetic layer; and  
a second ferromagnetic layer on the tunnel barrier layer, wherein the tunneling magnetoresistive stack exhibits a negative exchange coupling between the first ferromagnetic layer and the second ferromagnetic layer.
2. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 1, wherein the tunnel barrier layer comprises an oxidized titanium alloy.
3. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 2, wherein the oxidized titanium alloy includes a dopant.
4. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 3, wherein the dopant is an element of the group consisting of Nb, Cr, Mo, P, Si, V, W, B, and Co.
5. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 2, wherein the oxidized titanium alloy includes an oxide of a metal of the group consisting of aluminum, zirconium, and hafnium.
6. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 1, wherein the tunnel barrier layer also comprises a dopant.

7. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 1, wherein the tunnel barrier layer comprises  $\text{Ti}_x\text{Al}_y\text{O}_z$ .

8. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 1, wherein the tunnel barrier layer comprises a combination of titanium, aluminum, and oxygen as represented in FIG. 6 as the line from  $\text{TiO}_2$  to  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ .

9. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 1, wherein the first ferromagnetic layer is a pinned layer.

10. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 1, wherein the second ferromagnetic layer is a free layer.

11. (Original) A tunneling magnetoresistive stack comprising:  
a first ferromagnetic layer;  
a second ferromagnetic layer; and  
a tunnel barrier layer between the first and second ferromagnetic layers, wherein the tunnel barrier layer is an oxide of a titanium alloy.

12. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 11, wherein the oxide of a titanium alloy includes aluminum.

13. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 11, wherein the magnetoresistive stack exhibits a negative exchange coupling between the first ferromagnetic layer and the second ferromagnetic layer.

14. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 11, wherein the first ferromagnetic layer and the second ferromagnetic layer each have a thickness in the range of 10Å to 200Å.

15. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 11, wherein the tunnel barrier layer has a thickness less than 30Å.

16. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 11, wherein the tunnel barrier includes a dopant.

17. (Original) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 16, wherein the dopant is an element of the group consisting of Nb, Cr, Mo, P, Si, V, W, B, and Co.

18-28. (Canceled)

29. (New) A tunneling magnetoresistive stack comprising:  
a first ferromagnetic layer;  
a second ferromagnetic layer; and  
a tunnel barrier layer between the first and second ferromagnetic layers, wherein the tunnel barrier layer is an oxide, nitride or oxynitride including a dopant.

30. (New) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 29, wherein the tunnel barrier layer is a doped titanium alloy oxide.

31. (New) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 30, wherein the titanium alloy oxide includes an oxide of a metal of the group consisting of aluminum, zirconium, and hafnium.

32. (New) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 29, wherein the tunnel barrier layer comprises  $\text{Ti}_x\text{Al}_y\text{O}_z$ .

33. (New) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 29, wherein the magnetoresistive stack exhibits a negative exchange coupling between the first ferromagnetic layer and the second ferromagnetic layer.

34. (New) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 29, wherein the first ferromagnetic layer and the second ferromagnetic layer each have a thickness in the range of 10Å to 200Å.

35. (New) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 29, wherein the tunnel barrier layer has a thickness less than 30Å.

36. (New) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 29, wherein the dopant is an element of the group consisting of Nb, Cr, Mo, P, Si, V, W, B, and Co.

37. (New) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 29, wherein the first ferromagnetic layer is a pinned layer.

38. (New) The tunneling magnetoresistive stack of claim 29, wherein the second ferromagnetic layer is a free layer.